WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of transcoding image data in a compressed format comprising the steps of:

decoding differential pulse code modulation DC frequency components of plural image blocks;

partitioning the image into a plurality of image cells, each image cell including a plurality of image blocks;

recoding DC frequency components of plural image blocks in differential pulse code modulated format, said differential pulse code modulated of said image blocks contained solely within a corresponding image cell;

extracting the Huffman tables from the image data;

storing said extracted Huffman tables together with an indication of an associated image cell in a header for said image cell;

identifying image blocks by a block count; and

recoding said identified image blocks into corresponding image cells.

2. The method of transcoding of claim 1, wherein:

said step of extracting Huffman tables includes

detecting any new Huffman tables within said image block, and

storing said detected Huffman table with a define Huffman table marker in said corresponding image cell.

3. The method of transcoding of claim 1, wherein:

said step of identifying image blocks by a block count includes

detecting end of block identifiers in said image data, and

assigning sequential numbers to identified image blocks.

4. The transcoding method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

storing a starting address of each recoded image cell.

5. The transcoding method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

performing an image transformation from a source image in said transcoded format to a destination image including

identifying a next source pixel in the image transformation,

determining if said next source pixel is in a new image cell,

if said next source pixel is not in a new image cell, then performing said image transformation, and

if said next source pixel is in a new image cell, then decompressing said new image cell and preforming said image transformation,

until said image transformation is performed on a last source pixel.

6. The transcoding method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

performing an image transformation from a source image in said transcoded format to a destination image including

identifying a next source pixel in the image

transformation,

determining if said next source pixel is in a new image cell,

if said next source pixel is not in a new image cell, then performing said image transformation, and

if said next source pixel is in a new image cell, then decompressing said new image cell and performing said image transformation if memory is available to store said decompressed new image cell, else discarding a prior decompressed image cell, then decompressing said new image cell and performing said image transformation, and until said image transformation is performed on a last source pixel.